



DELAWARE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
15 THE GREEN, DOVER, DE 19901

CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY  
PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION FORM

CRS # K-7352  
SPO Map 12-18-13  
South  
Hundred Murderkill  
Quad Frederica  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

1. HISTORIC NAME/FUNCTION: Rainbow Inn/Restaurant/Seafood Market
2. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7824 Bay Road, Kent County, East Side of Road
3. TOWN/NEAREST TOWN: Little Heaven vicinity? ☐
4. MAIN TYPE OF RESOURCE: building ☒ landscape ☐ structure ☐ district ☐ site ☐ object ☐
5. MAIN FUNCTION OF PROPERTY: Restaurant/Bar
6. PROJECT TITLE/ REASON FOR SURVEY (if applicable):  
SR 1 Little Heaven Interchange

7. ADDITIONAL FORMS USED:

#:	Form:	List property types:
1	CRS 2 Main Building Form	restaurant
0	CRS 3 Secondary Building Form	
0	CRS 4 Archaeological Site Form	
0	CRS 5 Structure (Building-Like) Form	
0	CRS 6 Structure (Land Feature) Form	
0	CRS 7 Object Form	
0	CRS 8 Landscape Elements Form	
1	CRS 9 Map Form	N/A
0	CRS 14 Potential District Form	

8. SURVEYOR INFORMATION:

Surveyor name: Lauren C. Archibald

Principal Investigator name: Lauren C. Archibald

Principal Investigator signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: A.D. Marble & Company Date: July 2004

9. OTHER NOTES OR OBSERVATIONS:

CRS# K-7352

10. STATE HISTORIC CONTEXT FRAMEWORK (check all appropriate boxes; refer to state management plan(s)):

a) Time period(s)

- ☐ Pre-European Contact
- ☐ Paleo-Indian
- ☐ Archaic
- ☐ Woodland I
- ☐ Woodland II

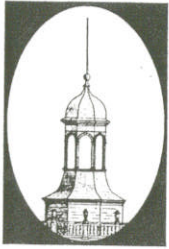
- ☐ 1600-1750∇ Contact Period (Native American)
- ☐ 1630-1730∇ Exploration and Frontier Settlement
- ☐ 1730-1770∇ Intensified and Durable Occupation
- ☐ 1770-1830∇ Early Industrialization
- ☐ 1830-1880∇ Industrialization and Early Urbanization
- ☐ 1880-1940∇ Urbanization and Early Suburbanization
- ☒ 1940-1960∇ Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization

b) Geographical zone

- ☐ Piedmont
- ☒ Upper Peninsula
- ☐ Lower Peninsula/Cypress Swamp
- ☐ Coastal
- ☐ Urban (City of Wilmington)

c) Historic period theme(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Communication              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Settlement Patterns and Demographic Changes   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trapping/Hunting                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture, Engineering and Decorative Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mining/Quarrying                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Government                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing/Oystering                | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturing                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retailing/Wholesaling | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Organizations                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Organizations                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services            | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Families, Individuals and Events        |



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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY  
MAIN BUILDING FORM

CRS # K-7352

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7824 Bay Road, East Side of Road; Rainbow Inn, Restaurant, Seafood Market
2. FUNCTION(S): historic Restaurant/Bar/Seafood take-out current Same
3. YEAR BUILT: 1945 CIRCA?: ☒ ARCHITECT/BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_
4. STYLE OR FLOOR PLAN: Side-gable with rear wings
5. INTEGRITY: original site ☒ moved ☐  
if moved, from where \_\_\_\_\_ other location's CRS # \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_  
list major alterations and additions with years (if known) \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_  
a. see narrative description  
b. \_\_\_\_\_
6. CURRENT CONDITION: excellent ☐ good ☒ fair ☐ poor ☐
7. DESCRIPTION: (Describe the resource as completely as possible. Use N/A for not applicable; leave no blanks.)
  - a. Overall shape: Rectangular with large wings (creating a U-shape) Stories: 1  
Additions: See narrative description
  - b. Structural system (if known): Masonry
  - c. Foundation: materials: concrete block  
basement: full ☐ partial ☐ not visible ☐ no basement ☒
  - d. Exterior walls (original if visible& any subsequent coverings): Concrete block, plywood
  - e. Roof: shape: Gable  
materials: Asbestos shingles  
cornice: Wood  
dormers: n/a  
chimney: location(s): one concrete block chimney, interior
8. DESCRIPTION OF ELEVATIONS:
  - a. Facade: Direction: W
    - 1) Bays 4 (5 including the single-leaf door behind restaurant sign)
    - 2) Windows 2  
fenestration irregular  
type 1/1; double hung  
trim wood  
shutters n/a

## Facade (cont'd)

- 3) Door(s) 2
  - location off center, one is behind sign (sheltered entrance)
  - type single leaf, with windows on top (2 panes)
  - trim wood
- 4) Porch(es) n/a

## b. Side: Direction: S

- 1) Bays 5
- 2) Windows 5
  - fenestration irregular
  - type 1/1 and 8; double hung and jalousies
  - trim wood
  - shutters n/a
- 3) Door(s) n/a
  - location n/a
  - type n/a
  - trim n/a
- 4) Porch(es) n/a

## c. Side: Direction: N

- 1) Bays 4 main bays with 12 additional ribbon windows
- 2) Windows 3, plus 12 ribbon windows on rear wing
  - fenestration irregular
  - type 4-pane, fixed; 3-pane jalousie, ribbon windows (swing out from the top) fixed, and 1/1 paired, double hung windows
  - trim wood on ribbon windows
  - shutters n/a
- 3) Door(s) 2
  - location off center
  - type single leaf and double hung
  - trim wood
- 4) Porch(es) n/a

## d. Rear: Direction: E

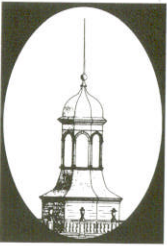
- 1) Bays 6
- 2) Windows 5
  - fenestration irregular
  - type 8 pane; casement
  - trim wood, concrete
  - shutters n/a
- 3) Door(s) 1
  - location off center
  - type single leaf
  - trim n/a
- 4) Porch(es) n/a

9. INTERIOR: Not accessible

10. LANDSCAPING: Parking lot on side and rear; concrete island near SR 1

11. OTHER COMMENTS: Building was not open for business during field visits, but appeared to be maintained, and the electricity was running (November 2003).





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CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY  
MAP FORM

CRS # K-7352

1. ADDRESS/LOCATION: 7824 Bay Road, South Murderkill Hundred, Kent County

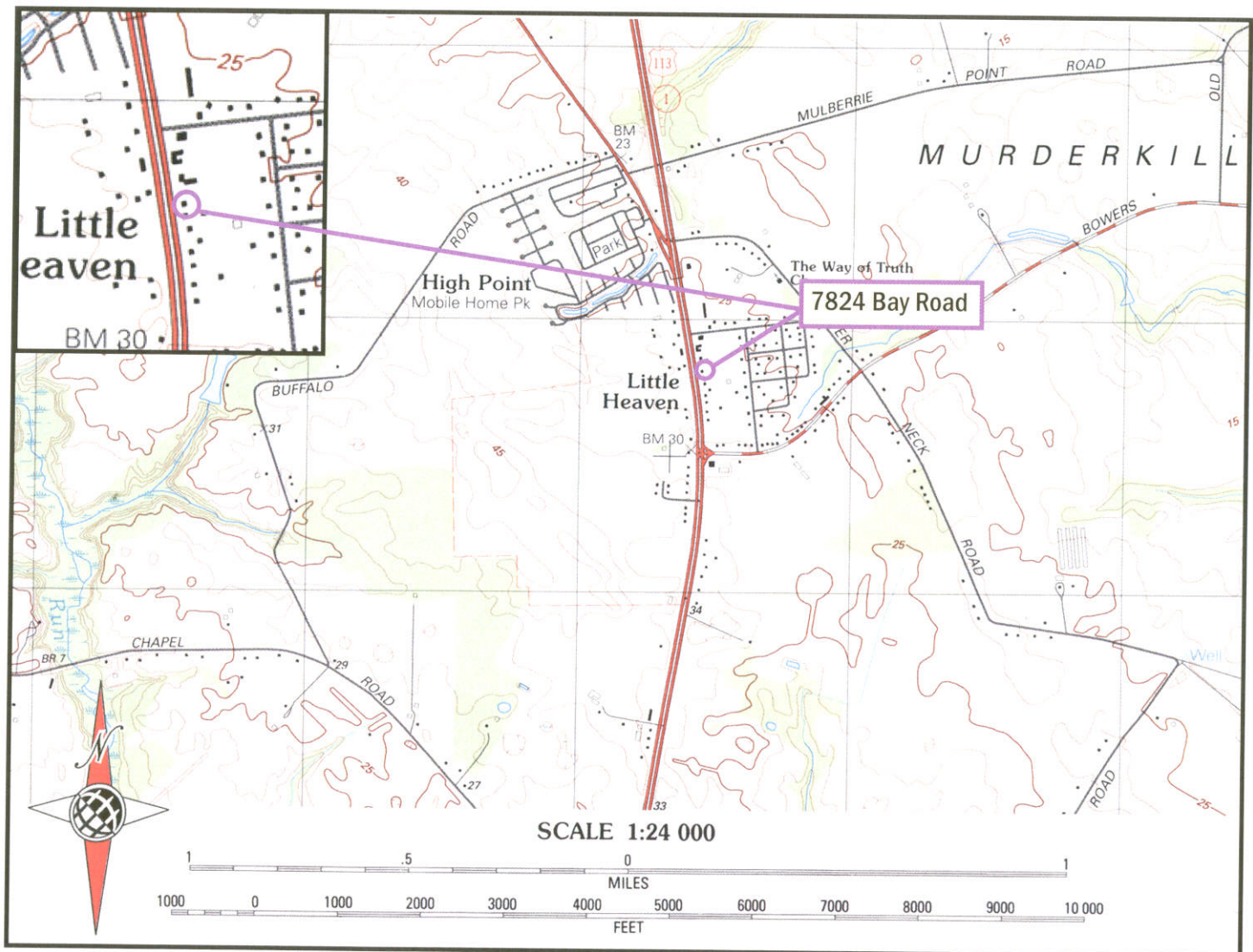
2. NOT FOR PUBLICATION ☐ reason: \_\_\_\_\_

3. LOCATION MAP:

Indicate position of resource in relation to geographical landmarks such as streams and crossroads.

(attach section of USGS quad map with location marked or draw location map )

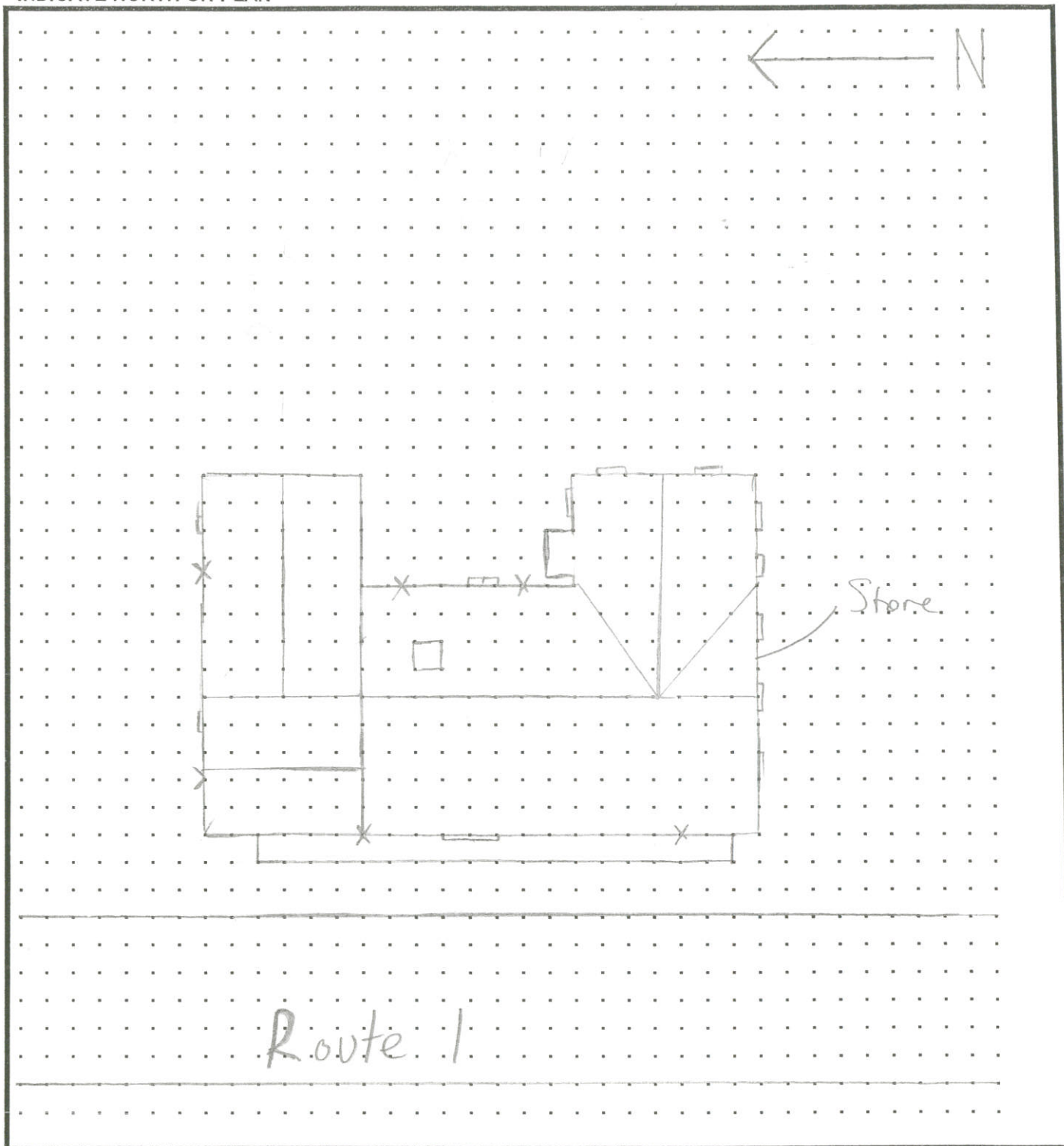
INDICATE NORTH ON SKETCH



4. SITE PLAN:

CRS # K-7352

INDICATE NORTH ON PLAN



USE BLACK INK ONLY

CRS-9



**CRS #K-7352**

**Rainbow Inn Property**

**General Description.** The Rainbow Inn Restaurant is located on the east side of SR 1. This large, U-shaped building is the only building on the lot, and it is surrounded by a macadam parking lot. This commercial building is built with concrete blocks, and is painted white. The building is in good condition. There is a concrete island in front of the building, along the highway shoulder.

The long side of the building is presented with the gable running parallel with SR 1. There is a shallow awning across the full front of the building, and there are several entrances on this façade. Although the building was not open for inspection, it is likely that different doors led into either the restaurant or the bar and/or take-out areas of the building. An electrified, plastic sign hovers over the ridge of the building with the lettering "Rainbow Inn". The north and south gable ends are painted with "Restaurant – Crabs Here or To Go" in script, and "Seafood Market" is also painted on the southern wall near the east end of the building. There are several beer advertisement signs around the outside of the building, such as Pabst Blue Ribbon, Bud Light, Lite, etc.

The building seems to have been built with three to four sections, with the primary block running parallel to SR 1. A slightly lower and smaller wing is found immediately to the north, and there are two perpendicular wings that extend from the northeast and southeast walls of the primary block, giving the building its overall "U" shape. The northeast wing, which features a continuous band of ribbon windows beneath the cornice, appears to be the older section of the building.

The south wall of the building has no entrances but does have five windows, one of which has been partially filled in and fitted with a window-unit air conditioner. The north side of the building also features two doorways, one of which has a double door; the other is single. This wall also has a continuous band of ribbon windows, all with red wood trim, just beneath the cornice. There are a variety of window types on the east side of the building. This side also has two single-leaf entrance doors that appear to be service entrances.

**Historical Background.** The Rainbow Inn, located at 7824 Bay Road in Little Heaven, was constructed in ca. 1945 and sits on a plot of land that was divided into three parcels. In 1930, the Associated Realty Corporation sold two of the parcels containing 27,700.0 square feet to Charles W. Baker (KCDB V13: 20). In 1939, Dawson G. Minsor, and his wife Jenine M. Minsor, sold the remaining parcel containing 22,500.0 square feet to Richard Graeson and Russell C. Moore (KCDB K18: 1). Shortly after purchasing the parcel, Moore sold his portion to Graeson. On July 30, 1948, Richard Graeson had sold his parcel to the Rainbow Inn, Inc. (KCDB D18: 459). On July 14 and August 26, 1948, Charles W. Baker sold two parcels to the Rainbow Inn, Inc. (KCDB K18: 255, K18: 260). On December 4, 1961, Richard Groeschen, President of Rainbow Inn, Inc., sold the property to Howard T. Killer and his wife, Norma B. Killer, for \$38,000 (KCDB T22:

93). On September 19, 1989, Howard and Norma Killer sold the three parcels containing 50, 200.0 square feet to Jack Keller for \$90, 000 (KCDB D47: 324).

Kent County property records indicate that this building dates from ca. 1945. The building appears on USGS topographic maps beginning in 1946.

**Evaluation.** The Rainbow Inn is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because it does not meet the eligibility criteria established by the National Park Service (NPS 1997). The restaurant/store is an example of an altered, mid-twentieth-century commercial building within the SR 1 Interchange study area. This resource has no notable character-defining features for commercial architecture. The lack of commercial architectural features dating from the resource's period of significance detracts from its ability to convey its historic significance. The property lacks sufficient historic integrity to convey its commercial architectural significance under Criterion A. This resource retains integrity of location but lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, association, workmanship, and feeling. The property is recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A.

Property-specific research and documentary research of the area in general did not reveal any associations between this property and significant events or trends. Likewise, research did not reveal any associations with significant individuals; therefore, the property is recommended not eligible for listing under Criterion B. The store does not display the distinctive characteristics of a type, style, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value; therefore, it is recommended not eligible under Criterion C. Archaeological investigations have not yet been conducted on this property; therefore, the resource's eligibility under Criterion D (potential to yield information important to history or prehistory) cannot be assessed at this time.

## **Bibliography**

Kent County Recorder of Deeds (KCDB)

Kent County Deed Books, Kent County Courthouse, Dover, Delaware.

National Park Service (NPS)

1997 *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.